



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

ARTICLES IN CURRENT PERIODICALS.

ALCALDE (Austin, Texas), volume 10, September, 1922: "George Bruce Halsted" by H. Y. Benedict, 1357-1359 ["Halsted was not a member of the first 1883-84 faculty of eight professors, but came the second year to succeed as Professor of Mathematics, William Le Roy Broun, who had gone back to Alabama to be president of the Alabama Polytechnic College. Halsted was for some time the first and only young 'professor,' all his colleagues being 'elder statesmen' who had already won their reputations in other institutions. The young, erratic, and somewhat bizarre Halsted presented quite a contrast to the older and more conventional Gould, Dabney, *et al.* During the 18 years that he remained in the University he was the most conspicuous and spectacular member of the faculty, at least so far as the students were concerned. There were noted men in the faculty and the students knew it, but they talked more of Halsted than of the others. This was because he was always saying or doing something peculiar or interesting. To this day the old-timers remember how he used to drive rapidly all about town a Shetland pony hitched to a wagon built of four toy wheels and a long plank, himself sitting astride of the plank which also carried three five-gallon coal-oil cans full of mash for his pigs. Let any student of the early years get to telling stories and you'll soon hear him tell, not without some exaggeration, anecdotes of Halsted—how he tried to feed his family exclusively on prickly-pear salad, how he built his house on stilts to avoid malaria; how, driving too rapidly, he thanked the policeman who was about to arrest him, for stopping his runaway horse.

"Halsted was a graduate of Princeton, where there is a Halsted Observatory donated by a member of his family, and at Johns Hopkins was a pupil of the great but eccentric Sylvester and a member of the small band there in 1876 that is usually regarded as the first real graduate school in the United States. For scientific research, for discovery of new natural laws, for philosophical speculation, for plucking some new fact out of the vast unknown, Halsted ever afterwards had an unabated zeal, an enthusiasm that communicated itself to others even while they smiled at his. 'Creation discovery,' 'the on go and the uprush of civilization,' 'nothing can take the place of contact with the living spirit of research,' were phrases ever on his tongue. The unknown fascinated him, conventions bored him, and he yearned to make discoveries.

"Although an unsystematic teacher who did not force his students to cover much ground, he was very interesting and at times elucidated complexities with startling clarity. His public lectures were extremely popular, and on interesting topics. In debate he was acute, and amusing. . . .

"Some of Halsted's phrases still cling after the passage of many years. 'The successful American,' he once wrote, 'is highly migratory; I have been all over the world.' At an ancient meeting of the Texas Academy of Science, at which Alexander Macfarlane, Professor of Physics, but known locally as 'Johnnie,' was arguing that the square root of minus one was a rotor or 90 degree turner, Halsted jumped to his feet and cried, 'It is no more 90 degrees than it is the left ear of a white elephant.'

"Much more could be written. Was he lucky in the pupils that he had, or did he inspire them to great things? That he had great pupils is certain: Len Dickson, M. B. Porter, R. L. Moore, G. W. Pierce, R. A. Thompson, Florence Lewis, and others. From any other institution comparable with the University of Texas, there has come in our generation no such group. . . .

"To 'George Bruce,' as we used to call him, it is scarcely fitting to say 'Rest in Peace.' In the other world, with William James and Elliot Cowes, with his beloved Bolyai and Lobachevsky and Sylvester, he will find his happiness, not in rest, but in gazing curiously at the universe as it appears from the other side. Loving fine distinctions, splitting and resplitting the boundary line dividing convergent and divergent series, may not Halsted's spirit even now be seeking the Aum of the Buddhists, the Alpha and Omega of the Christians, the Alif of the Mohammedans?

'A hair divides the False from True,
Yes; and a single Alif were the clue
Could you but find it—to the Treasure House
And peradventure the Master too.'"]

ANNALS OF MATHEMATICS, volume 23, September, 1921: "On matrices whose elements are integers" by O. Veblen and P. Franklin, 1-15; "An algorithm for differential invariant theory" by O. E. Glenn, 16-28; "The general theory of cyclic-harmonic curves" by R. E. Moritz, 29-39; "More theorems on the complete quadrilateral" by J. W. Clawson, 40-44; "A theorem on cross ratios in the geometry of inversion" by J. L. Walsh, 45-51; "The condition for an isothermal

family on a surface" by J. K. Whittemore, 52-55; "The reversion of class number relations and the total representation of integers as sums of squares or triangular numbers" by E. T. Bell, 56-67; "Note on the term maximal subgroup" by G. A. Miller, 68-69; "Reducible cubic forms expressible rationally as determinants" by L. E. Dickson, 70-74; "Note on the Picard method of successive approximations" by D. Jackson, 75-77; "A fundamental system of covariants of the ternary cubic form" by L. E. Dickson, 78-82; "The modular theory of polyadic numbers" by A. A. Bennett, 83-90; "Some algebraic analogies in matrix theory" by A. A. Bennett, 91-96; "Generalized conjugate matrices" by P. Franklin, 97-100.

BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY, volume 28, June, 1922: "The February meeting of the American Mathematical Society" by R. G. D. Richardson, 233-244; "A property of continuity" by D. C. Gillespie, 245-250; "Kinematics in a complex plane and some geometric applications" by A. Emch, 251-257; "Note on some results concerning Fermat's last theorem" by H. S. Vandiver, 258-260; "Convex distribution of the zeros of Sturm-Liouville functions" by E. Hille, 261-265; "Books on Fourier series" by C. N. Moore, 266-270 [Review of E. W. Hobson, *Theory of Functions of a Real Variable and the Theory of Fourier's Series* (vol. 1, Cambridge, 1921) and of H. S. Carslaw, *Introduction to the Theory of Fourier's Series and Integrals* (2d edition, London, 1921)]; Review by R. D. Carmichael of *Oeuvres de G. H. Halphen* (vol. 3, Paris, 1921), by A. R. Crathorne of J. Lipka, *Graphical and Mechanical Computation* (New York, 1918), by A. Dresden of K. Knopp, *Funktionentheorie* (2 Parts, Berlin and Leipzig, 1918-20), and by F. Cajori of L. Carnot, *Réflexions sur la Métaphysique du Calcul Infinitésimal* (vols. 1 and 2 Paris, 1921), 271-273; Notes, 274-277; New publications, 278-280—July, 1922: "The April meeting of the San Francisco Section" by B. A. Bernstein, 281-285; "The Easter meeting of the Society" by R. G. D. Richardson and A. Dresden, 285-302; "A report on the scientific work of the Chicago Section, 1897-1922" by A. Dresden, 303-307; "Eliakim Hastings Moore Fund" by A. Dresden, 307-309; "Note on the division of a plane by a point set" by E. W. Chittenden, 310-312; "Note on steady fluid motion" by S. D. Zeldin, 313-315; "Two books on analysis" by A. Dresden, 315-317 [Review of G. Vivanti, *Lezioni di Analisi Infinitesimale* (2d edition, Torino, 1920) and of E. Pascal, *Lezioni di Calcolo Infinitesimale* (Milano, Part I, 4th edition, 1919; Part II, 4th edition, 1918, Part III, 2d edition, 1918)]; Review by E. B. Stouffer of V. Kommerell and K. Kommerell, *Allgemeine Theorie der Raumkurven und Flächen* (vols. I and II, 3d edition, Berlin and Leipzig, 1921), by G. E. Wahlin of L. J. Mordell, *Three Lectures on Fermat's Last Theorem* (Cambridge, 1921), by H. Bateman of A. A. Robb, *The Absolute Relations of Time and Space* (Cambridge, 1921), by E. P. Adams of L. Rougier, *Philosophy and the New Physics* (Philadelphia, 1921), and by C. N. Reynolds, Jr., of K. M. Kohler, *Das Exzentrizitätsprinzip als Korrelat zur Relativitätstheorie* (Vienna, 1921), 317-319; Notes, 320-325; New publications, 325-328.

BULLETIN DES SCIENCES MATHÉMATIQUES, volume 46, June, 1922: "L'œuvre mathématique de Georges Humbert, quelques mots sur Camille Jordan" by H. Lebesgue, 220-223 [Extrait de la leçon inaugurale de mathématiques donnée au Collège de France le 6 janvier 1922. "Lorsqu'en 1912, Georges Humbert fut nommé professeur de mathématiques au Collège de France, ses travaux nombreux, variés et importants, qui lui avaient valu d'être élu membre de l'Académie des Sciences en 1901, avaient attiré sur lui, depuis longtemps, l'attention des mathématiciens du monde entier. Après 1912, malgré une longue maladie, son activité scientifique ne s'est pas ralentie; dans les derniers mois de sa vie, il rédigeait encore un Mémoire qui ne fut publié qu'après sa mort, dans le premier fascicule du *Journal de Mathématiques* de 1921. Georges Humbert a publié plus de 140 Notes et Mémoires, souvent étendus. . . . Dans toute œuvre véritable se révèle une continuité de pensée qui permet de grouper tout naturellement les divers Mémoires autour de quelques idées directrices, de quelques préoccupations dominantes. Dans cette esquisse rapide, je me bornerai au groupement qui s'impose tout d'abord: recherches antérieures à 1898, relatives à l'étude des fonctions algébriques; recherches postérieures à 1898, relatives à la théorie et à l'utilisation des fonctions abéliennes singulières. . . . Ici, dans cette chaire où j'ai le redoutable honneur de lui succéder, Humbert fut un professeur particulièrement apprécié, dont les leçons étaient impatientement attendues d'un auditoire toujours fidèle. A mon avis, rien ne montre mieux les rares qualités d'Humbert que ses succès au Collège de France, car la tâche d'un professeur y est si difficile que, pour ma part, j'ai toujours été tenté de la déclarer impossible. On n'a pas le droit de n'y faire qu'un enseignement classique, fût-il excellent; il y faut un enseignement toujours en progrès, toujours renouvelé, toujours original; par le fond, si possible, tout au moins quant au groupement des matières et à la compréhension du sujet. . . . Comment Humbert a-t-il réussi à se rapprocher assez de cet idéal pour contenter toujours ses auditeurs? Le règle de conduite

qu'il a adoptée est à la fois habile et modeste; elle a été, de plus, fort utile aux progrès des études mathématiques en France. Au lieu de compter, comme il en aurait eu le droit, sur l'originalité de son esprit et la rapidité de sa compréhension, il a préféré s'appuyer sur la solidité et la précision de ses connaissances pour tout ce qui touche au domaine algébrique. Dans ce domaine, il a su trouver des sujets de Cours précis et variés, et cela d'autant plus facilement qu'il a continué à travailler exclusivement dans ce domaine et qu'il était constamment au courant de tout ce qui se publiait le concernant. En faisant ce choix, Humbert ne risquait guère de voir son enseignement faire double emploi avec quelque autre; les sujets étudiés par Humbert sont, en effet, presque tous en marge des questions soulevées par les principaux courants de la pensée mathématique pendant les trente dernières années. . . . Puisque ma tâche consiste, aujourd'hui, à parler de la chaire de Mathématiques du Collège de France et de ceux qui l'ont occupée le plus brillamment, j'ai la joie de pouvoir rendre hommage à l'illustre doyen des mathématiciens français, à M. Camille Jordan Voici toute une série de problèmes dont la liaison avec certains de ceux étudiés par Humbert n'est pas trop lointaine; quelle différence cependant entre les méthodes de ces deux éminents mathématiciens. Humbert utilise partout et toujours la fonction analytique, algébrique même, qu'il réussit ingénieusement à faire intervenir dans bien des questions, même dans des questions arithmétiques; à cet égard, il s'apparente à Poincaré. M. Jordan, suivant la voie ouverte par Galois, traite de questions, relatives par leur énoncé même au calcul algébrique, sans le secours de l'appareil analytique, à l'aide de raisonnements presque synthétiques. Dans ces raisonnements on procède toujours, si l'on veut dire, à une analyse; mais l'instrument qu'on y emploie est sans cesse variable, on le construit, on le modifie à chaque instant, et c'est en ce sens que les raisonnements sont synthétiques. . . . Les excursions faites par M. Jordan hors des domaines de recherches traditionnels avaient d'ailleurs fait réfléchir bien des mathématiciens; ceux-ci ont donné à la jeune école des encouragements précieux qui ont largement compensé les quelques reproches qu'elle a dû subir. Reproches bien injustes d'ailleurs, car, loin de mépriser le calcul, nous sommes persuadés que nos procédés synthétiques actuels céderont quelque jour la place à des procédés meilleurs, parce que plus analytiques; nous ne prétendons qu'à être les précurseurs et les annonceurs peut-être d'un Viète ou d'un Newton qui introduira un symbolisme nouveau ou des notions nouvelles, peut-être d'un Descartes ou d'un Cauchy qui utilisera un symbolisme déjà connu et qui l'élargira pour des fins nouvelles, et nous soupirons après le nouvel algorithme qui, entre les mains d'hommes habiles comme l'était Humbert, donnera facilement et élégamment plus que ce que nous n'obtenons que péniblement et lourdement."]

UNDERGRADUATE MATHEMATICS CLUBS.

All reports of club activities should be sent to E. L. DODD, Williams College, Williamstown, Mass.

CLUB ACTIVITIES.

THE MATHEMATICS CLUB OF HUNTER COLLEGE, New York City. [1918, 187; 1921, 387.]

The following meetings were held in 1921-1922:

March 3, 1921: Reception to freshmen.

March 7: Business meeting.

March 21: "Graphical solution of problems" by Isabel Graves '23.

April 4: "Problems from Jones's *Mathematical Wrinkles*" by Monica Gilloran '21.

April 18: "Geometric forms in art and nature" (illustrated with lantern slides) by Professor Lao G. Simons.

May 19: Business meeting.

May 20: Election of officers, as follows: President, Sarah Karnis '22; vice-president, Edna Kramer '22; treasurer, Rose Charlon '22; publicity manager, Henrietta Olidort '23; secretary, Adele Matzke '22.

September 26: "Women mathematicians" by Adele Matzke '22; "Sonya Kovalevski" by Edna Kramer '22.

October 10-November 7: Mathematicians distinguished in other fields: "Omar Khayyam,